Statement

Details of closed Cotton/Man-made Fibre Textile Mills and Workers rendered jobless in Maharashtra as on 31.12.95.

S.No.	Name of mill and address	Workers affected
1.	Kohinoor Mills Co. Ltd., No. 3, Bomaby	49
2.	Bradbury Mills Ltd. Bombay	3093
3.	Mukesh Textile Mills, Bomaby	1658
4.	Shreeniwas Cotton Mills Ltd.-, Bomaby	5322
5.	Vishwa Bharati Spg. & Wvg. Co-op. Society Ltd., Thane	1399
6.	The Nanded Utpadak Sah Soot Girni, Nanded	459
7.	Shirampur Tal Kapus Utpadak Sahsoot Girni Maryadit, Ahmednagar	735
8.	Jalgaon Kapas Utpadak Sah Soot Girni Ltd., Jalgaon	391
9.	Nasik Distt. Coop. Spg. Mills Ltd., Nasik	1039
10.	Prabhavati Sah Soot Girni Maryadit, Parbhani.	783
11.	Lokmanya Mills Barshi Ltd., Solapur	547
12.	Kiran Spg. Mills. Thane	1197
13.	New Ravi Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd.	34
14.	The Raja Bahadur Motilal Poona Mills Ltd., Pune.	1133
15.	Rajan Textile Mills Pvt. Ltd., Sholapur	227
16.	Lakshmi Vishnu Tex. Mill Ltd., Sholapur	3602
17.	Khabdesh Spg. & Mfg. Co. Ltd., Jalgaon	2754
18.	Madhavnagar Cotton Mills Ltd., Sangli	1544

Action against Foreign Banks involved in Securities Scam

111. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased state:

(a) whether the JPC had recommended suspension of licence of foreign banks involved in Securities Scam;

"(b) whether that or any other comparable action has been taken against them;

(c) whether it is a fact that it will take Scam-hit banks something like twenty years to get back their monies as reported in the 'Indian Express' dated September 25, 1995; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to hasten the process of recovery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. DEBIPROSAD PAL): (a) and (b) The Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) which enquired into irregularities in securities and banking transactions had *inter-alia* recommended that stringent penalties including supsension of licences of 'foreign banks involved in the irregularities be imposed. As indicated in the revised paragraphs of the Action

Taken Report laid in the Parliament on - the JPC Report, RBI had taken action against foreign banks which included imposing of penalty, withdrawal of exemption given from maintenance of 10% incremental CRR, withholding of repatriation of profits, etc.

(c) and (d) Government have seen the newsitem referred to in the question. Claims have been filed by the banks against the Harshad Mehta Group before the Special Court which will decide them in accordance with the provisions of the Special Court (Trial of Offences Relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992.

Strategy by PHDCCI to Avert Power Crisis

112. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry has suggested a three-pronged strategy to avoid a serious power crisis by the turn of the century;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have examined the strategy; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI "URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The strategy suggested by the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry is as follows:-

(i) There should be a drastic restructuring of the Central Electricity Authority (CEA).

(ii) Ministry of Environment & Forests should be more responsive towards clearing power projects at a considerably faster speed.

(iii) Small specialist groups should be formed in the State Departments of Power under the Chief Minister for clearing power projects.

(c) and (d) The Government have been taking steps to streamline the clearance procedures even before and specifically taken the following steps in this regard:—

(i). The number of clearances required at the . stage of techno-economic clearance by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) have been reduced.

(ii) Projects with an estimated capital cost of less than Rs. 400 crores, which have been allocated to the promoter on the basis of competitive bidding, are no longer required to obtain techno-economic clearance of CEA.

(iii) A two stage clearance by CEA viz, 'In principle' clearance to be provided initially, followed by the detailed techno-economic clearance. The 'In principle' clearance enables the promoter to tie up certain inputs/ clearances without having to wait for the techno-economic clearance.

On the suggestion for a specialist group at the State level, the state governments would have to take a view.

Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act

113. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act provides the same penalty in case of hard and soft drugs;

(b) whether it is also a fact that by clubbing of both the types of drugs, the Act has as matter of fact promoted hard drugs;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the profit margin in the trade of hard drugs was 300% more than in soft drugs: and